



Development of Intercensal Estimates

The tables provide intercensal estimates of population and housing. Intercensal estimates are more accurate than postcensal estimates because they are bracketed on both sides by decennial or special census counts. The pattern of change across the decade is linked to housing change across the decade based on permit data. When special census certified counts are available, they are used to punctuate the trends with actual counts of housing units, occupancy ratios, persons per household ratios, and counts of population in group quarters in intercensal years.

These estimates are developed on the housing unit method. The numbers of housing units on which the method is based begin with 1990 census counts of housing units, continue with adjusted inventories and end with 2000 census counts. Basic assumptions and procedures follow:

- The primary assumption is that federal census counts for 1990 and 2000 are correct.
- Municipal formal census counts in the intervening years are also assumed to be correct.
- Housing change across the decade is distributed according to the permit and demolition data reported by the cities and towns each year.
- Occupancy and Household size ratios are interpolated between those reported by the 1990 and 2000 censuses.
- Group quarters populations are interpolated between those reported by the 1990 and 2000 censuses. Addition or deletion of group quarters populations of significant size are taken into account. See the data provided in Table 3.
- Special census results at or in between decennial census points are indicated in bold type. Housing and population counts reported by municipal special censuses are used in place of the interpolated estimates, and, based on judgment, are used as base points for interpolation.
- Occupancy ratios, persons per household ratios, and group quarters populations of cities newly incorporating four years or less before the 2000 census are assumed to be the same as reported in that census. Those of cities incorporating nearer the 1990 census were interpolated, based on the 1990 census.
- The intercensal populations, housing units, and populations in group quarters shown in these tables for the unincorporated parts of counties and the state are residuals after the respective municipal totals are subtracted from the county and state totals.